

COMMANDER'S RETIREE COUNCIL  
Fort Rucker, Alabama

The Commander's Retiree Council held its regularly scheduled meeting on 2 Nov 2006. It was the 218<sup>th</sup> regularly scheduled meeting since the Council was established in 1973.

1. Members present/absent and advisors and guests present were:

MEMBERS (Army Retiree, except as indicated)

PRESENT

COL Bob Bunting, Co-Chair  
COL Charles A. Block (USMC)  
COL James E. Hyers  
LTC Clarence R. Collins  
LTC James R. Mellish  
CW4 Robert M. Cooper

CSM Charles E. Frye, Co-chair  
CSM James W. Harris  
CSM William Jolley  
SGM Samuel V. MacMaster  
1SG John J. McCracken (USAF)  
SFC Joseph N. Barnes

MEMBERS ABSENT

COL William E. Crouch  
COL Herman S. Heath  
CDR James E. Cobb (USN)

SFC Bennett J. Jergenson  
1SG Jackie Ray

ADVISORS PRESENT

COL Michael Kaminski, CDR, USAAMC  
Mr. George W. Steuber, Dep. Garrison CDR  
Mr. Tim Laster, DMWR

Mr. Chris Moore, RSO  
Ms. Elysia Nicolas, PAO  
Ms. Deborah Seimer, AG

2. COL Bunting called the meeting to order at 1140.
3. The minutes of the last meeting were approved as written.
4. Old Business – None
5. Committee Reports.
  - a. Public Affairs - SGM MacMaster provided a calendar of events with points of interest:
    - (1) Chili Cook off and 5K run on 4 Nov at Howze Field.
    - (2) The Veteran's Day Ceremony on the 9 Nov at Veteran's Field.
    - (3) The AUSA Awards Dinner on 20 Nov at the Aviators' Landing.
    - (4) COL Bunting noted that the 98<sup>th</sup> Army Band will perform in Ozark on 12 Dec 06.

b. Legislative Affairs - COL Hyers reported that Congress had approved the 3.3% retiree cola for next year. He also mentioned that effective 1 Jan 07, Medicare payments would drop by 5%. The lower payments could result in some doctors no longer participating and some retirees who are enrolled in Tricare for Life might not be able to use the doctors of their choice.

c. Health Care - LTC Collins stated the Health Fair had an increase of about 150 personnel from last year.

d. Volunteer Program - SFC Barnes attended the Program's October monthly meeting. They discussed the awards program and ways to improved it. There is still a problem recognizing folks for their work and some volunteers do not want to be recognized for their contributions.

e. Consolidated Club System - Mr. Laster reminded everyone that the Club will be having a "Thanksgiving Feast" on Thanksgiving Day and recommended that you make reservations. COL Block noted the club's credit card payment does not allow inclusion of a tip. Mr. Laster will look into the issue.

f. Commissary - No report.

g. PX - No report.

h. Golf Course - Mr. Laster stated that the Golf Course still has Tee Boxes for sponsorship. On 18 Nov 06, the Golf Course will host an individual stroke play Turkey Shoot, tee times are from 0700 to 0900.

i. Equestrian Center - No report.

j. Outdoor Recreation - Mr. Laster reported that the Outdoor Recreation Department would hold a Youth and Disabled deer hunt at the MRF range on Hwy 27 from 0430-1800, 11 Nov 06.

k. Bowling Alley - CSM Jolley, nothing new to report.

l. RAD - LTC Mellish wanted to thank everyone for their support during the RAD.

#### 6. Advisors Comments -

a. Ms. Seimer informed the Council that AG would close offices at lunch time on 17 Nov 06 for their Thanksgiving Luncheon and the ID card section would be opened late that afternoon.

b. Mr. Steuber reported that the Faulkner and Newton Gate would change operating hours effective 14 Nov 06. The gates will open at 0500 and close at 2000 hours on duty days. These gates will be closed on weekend and holidays.

c. COL Kaminski reported the Retiree Health Fair was a success with over 900 participants and they received 47 written comments ranging from “excellent” to “poorly orchestrated.” Approximately 1/3 of the retirees attended only for the flu shots. Number of flu shots increased to 820 from 621 last year, Tetnus Immunizations increased to 10 up from none last year, Cholesterol and Blood Pressure Screenings grew to 232 from 198 last year. There were 84 Hearing Screenings, 15 Pneumonia Vaccinations, and 54 Skin Cancer Screenings. Three stations were added to the Health Fair this year. COL Kaminski and his staff identified some Health Fair problems areas and have developed ways to improve next year’s events. COL Kaminski thanked DMWR for providing golf carts to transport people from the parking lot to the entrance. He also thanked the volunteers from the 1/145<sup>th</sup> Aviation Regiment.

7. New Business- It was brought to the attention of the Garrison Command that the RAD is a requirement from the Department of Army and the command should publish an OPLAN next year, the RSO stated one had been sent out to all tasked organizations.

8. The meeting adjourned at 1240. The next scheduled meeting will be held at the Aviators Landing on 7 December 2006 at 1130.

Approved via-email


BOB BUNTING  
COL, Retired  
Co-Chairman

Approved via-email

CHARLES E. FRYE  
CSM, Retired  
Co-Chairman

Prepared By

BILL JOLLEY  
CSM, Retired  
Secretary

  
WILLIAM S. LARESE

COL, Aviation  
Garrison Commander

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